

# THE CMLC NEWS

## The Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Club Inc. Newsletter for July 2025



**President:** Tessa Mitchell-Anyon: [mitchellanyon.tessa@gmail.com](mailto:mitchellanyon.tessa@gmail.com)

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**Secretary:** Kamen Engel: [cmclub@chch.planet.org.nz](mailto:cmclub@chch.planet.org.nz)

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**Website:** [www.cmclub.org.nz](http://www.cmclub.org.nz)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/p/Canterbury-Mineral-and-Lapidary-Club-100064175581041/>

**Meeting Venue & Clubrooms:** 110 Waltham Road, Waltham, Christchurch 7:30 pm on the second Thursday of the month [Feb. to Nov.]

Annual General Meeting (7.30pm): 10<sup>th</sup> July

Committee Meeting (7pm): 17<sup>th</sup> July

Micro Mineral Meeting: Tuesday evenings (7 pm)

Workshops: Every Tuesday, Friday evenings, 6.30/7:00pm – 9:00pm

### Welcome New Members:

Hannah Watt, Hannah Harrison, Daryl Burke and Samuel King-Turner

### The July Meeting:

David McDonald will be doing a talk on Echinoderm (Sea urchin) fossil collecting through the ages!

### Field Trip:

The North Otago Rock & Mineral Club are hosting a show, which will be Julys field trip.

Scottish Hall, 10 Tyne St, Oamaru

Saturday, 12 July 2025 - 9:00am to 4:30pm

Sunday, 13 July 2025 - 10:00am to 4:00pm

### Stalls and activities include:

Gemstones and Jewellery

Minerals and Crystals

Gifts and Crafts

Fossils

Kids' Activities

Raffles

MicroEye Discovery Microscope

Children are free, \$2 admission charge for adults.

**NORTH OTAGO ROCK & MINERAL CLUB 54<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL**  
**GEMSTONE JEWELLERY & CRAFT FAIR**  
**12<sup>TH</sup> & 13<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2025**  
**FOSSILS JEWELLERY MICROSCOPE CRYSTALS**  
**DISPLAYS KIDS' ACTIVITIES GIFTS MINERALS RAFFLE** **\$2 ADMISSION**  
**SATURDAY 9<sup>AM</sup> - 4.30<sup>PM</sup> SUNDAY 10<sup>AM</sup> - 4<sup>PM</sup>**  
**SCOTTISH HALL 10 TYNE STREET OAMARU**  
**FOR MORE DETAILS CONTACT: KAREN 027 200 6873**

**July Auction:**

Don McLauchlin will be selling 20 lots of petrified wood, agate and fern on behalf of Gerald Birding

**Old Club Show Cases:**

Storage space is becoming a premium issue for us and so the committee have decided to dispose of the old display cases presently stored in the back shed. Anyone interested in one, two, three - the lot, please talk to a committee member. These display cases are completely free!

**Official CMLC Instagram:**

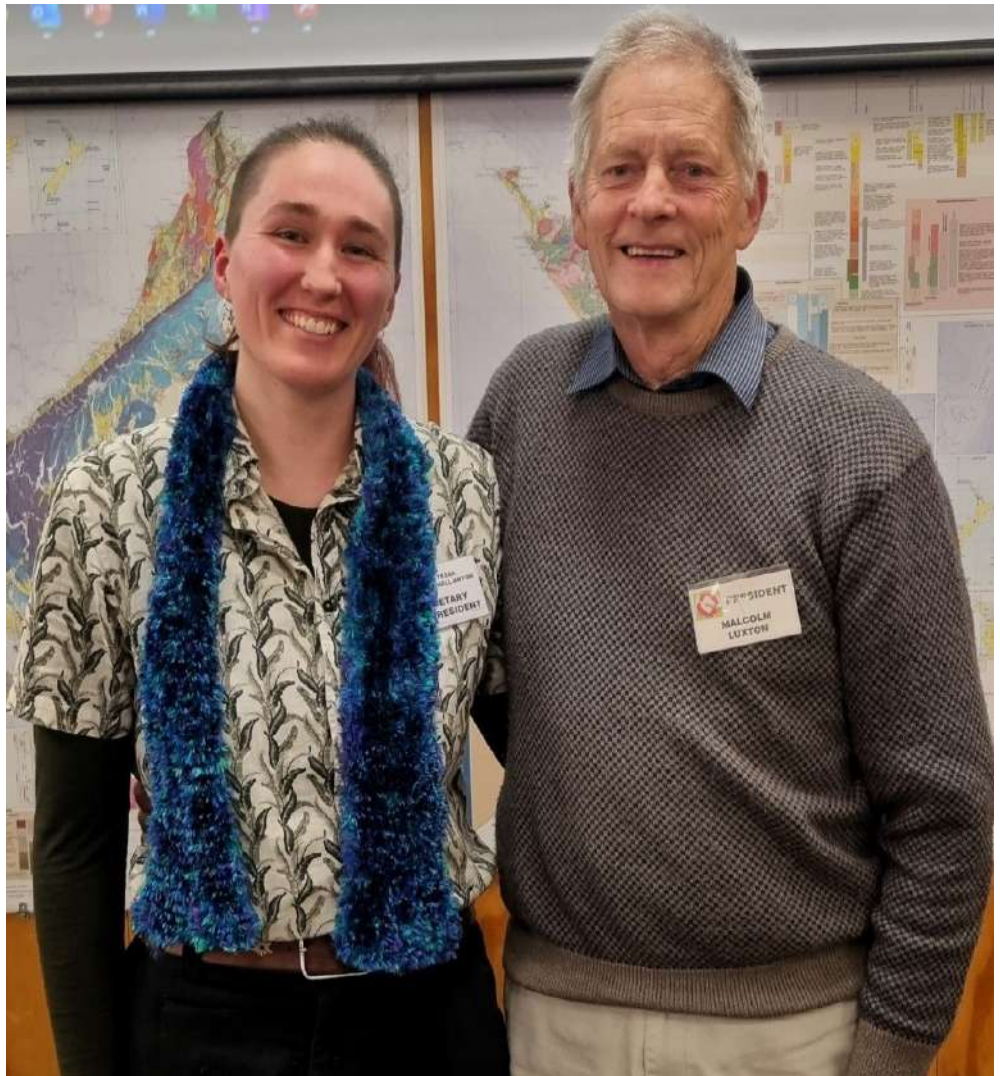
Did you know the Canterbury Mineral and Lapidary Club has an Instagram account? Why not search us out and 'follow'. Don't forget to tag us if you want us to share your photos!

<https://www.instagram.com/canterburyminerallapidaryclub/>

## The End of an Era and the Dawn of Something New

Malcolm Luxton has served as the president of CMLC since 2017, and he has made the decision to step down. He has devoted countless hours, working diligently behind the scenes to ensure the club operates smoothly. Through the challenges and triumphs, he has navigated them all with remarkable grace. We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Malcolm for his tremendous contributions to the club and hope that he can now relax and spend some quality time with his family.

A New Chapter Begins.  
At the club AGM in June, Tessa Mitchell-Anyon was elected as the new president of CMLC. Having served as the club secretary for a considerable time, Tessa has collaborated closely with Malcolm and is well-prepared for this role. Her calm assurance and dedication will undoubtedly guide the club into its next chapter.



- Anna Baker

## A Note from Tessa

A childhood spent picking fossils out of the cliffs at Kai Iwi beach, tramping packs that would come back heavier than when they left because of all the interesting rocks that couldn't be left behind, and the old empty paint buckets transformed into handy storage containers for hundreds of kilos of rocks (still stored down the back at my parents' house). Could there be a better resume for the position of President of a Rock Club?

Shortly after moving to Christchurch in 2019, I joined CMLC. I have been in this Club for six years, and have spent almost all of that time as the Secretary. Diving immediately head first into the Secretarial position taught me a lot about how the Club ticks; its members, its quirks, and what kind of lubricant it needs to run smoothly (mineral oil works best, though is not preferred for pounamu).

Now that I have set my roots down firmly in Christchurch, and with Malcolm thoroughly ready to pass the baton after his impressive run as President, the timing finally felt right for me to move one seat to the left in our committee meetings and do less typing and more talking.

Thank you to all those who attended the AGM and voted for me. Your support means a lot. I have very big boots to fill after Malcolms efforts. He has been an exceptional role model that I have been lucky enough to learn from over the years. Watching how he effortlessly handles challenging situations and can create order from chaos when everyone is talking at the same time in a committee meeting is a real skill. I hope to be able to continue on in Malcolms footsteps, allowing the club to be a positive space for us all to engage enthusiastically in our shared hobbies and hopefully learn a thing or two along the way.

- Tessa Mitchell-Anyon

## Canterbury Mineral & Lapidary Gem Show:

Our club show is coming up fast and we have a sub-committee busy organising behind the scenes to make sure it runs as smoothly as possible. As always, we are going to need the help and support from members of the club to make this event great. Please look through the list below and if there is anything you are able to help with it would be greatly appreciated!

**Raffle:** We are looking for donations for raffle prizes. If you have anything you are willing to donate, please bring it along to a general meeting and give it to Val Lear, or a member of the committee to pass along. This is always a good fundraising activity for the club so any donations are greatly appreciated.

**Chucky Trailer:** We will be having our always popular chucky trailer as usual. If you have any rough material you are looking to get rid of, please bring it along to a general meeting or workshop evening so we can fill the chucky trailer.

**Showcases:** If you are interested in having a showcase at the show, please let John Taylor know.

**Stallholders:** There will be a separate email set out to sign up as a stallholder at the show. If you are interested please follow the instructions provided in that email.

**Volunteers:** There will be a volunteers list at the next few club meetings before the show for members to sign up to help at the show. Please have a think about how much time you may be able to give to help out running the show. We cannot do this without all you wonderful people's support!



## A Message from Catherine

On behalf of the family, I would like you to pass on our grateful thanks to the committee and club, for holding the auction for Craig at the club rooms last Saturday.

A special thank you to John Taylor for being the auctioneer and for the willing helpers on the Friday in collecting and setting up.

Craig would have been very appreciative of you all.

Each time it seems for me a gradual letting go.

With kind regards

Catherine.



## Letter from the competition judge

Hello everyone, July marks the beginning of a new year of competitions. This year the committee has decided to spice things up with a new category. We hope you're all excited for "**Agate Arena**"! Seeing that we are the "agate club" we thought it was high time to have a dedicated agate category in the monthly competitions. Much like the other categories, each month, a new agate type will be introduced into the arena. Members are encouraged to bring any agates that fit the brief to come and show off their finds. Since I have your attention, I thought I'd take a moment to explain how I judge entries in the monthly competitions. Judging isn't always easy, and I often find myself struggling to decide the top three placements in each category. To help me along in the process, I have a few loose rules that I try to follow.

1. **Originality:** I love entries that are different and not just your usual slabbed or polished specimens. I often say that if someone brought in a polished cube or a set of dice made from rocks, it would be an instant first place!
2. **Self-found and made:** I tend to rate entries higher if they're found and worked on by the entrant, rather than bought or swapped from someone else.
3. **Effort:** This has some overlap with the first two points, but I also tend to rank entries higher if I can see that the effort has been put in!
4. **Looks good:** Pretty rocks win competitions! Enough said.

Towards the end of the last competition cycle, I had been seeing an increased interest and more entries from people who normally don't bring anything in. While this is awesome, I'd love to see **even more entries this year!** We have over 100 members in the club but only 4 or 5 people regularly enter in competitions... We can't let John Taylor win every category again this year, so I'm calling on more people to bring their specimens along on club nights!

If it is your first time entering the competitions or if you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to send me an email at [kamen.engel@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:kamen.engel@canterbury.ac.nz) or have a chat with me at the next meeting.

That being said, here is the list of categories for the upcoming competitions.

Congrats again to all of last year's winners, and I hope to see some new names on the leaderboards soon!

- Kamen Engel

## Competition results 2024/2025

	Lapidary	Mineral	Fossil	Alphabet cup	Bring & Brag
1st	John Taylor	John Taylor	John Taylor	Zena Wilson	Don Stanley
2nd	Lindsay Day	Lindsay Day	Lindsay Day	Lindsay Day Ava Wilson	Robin Hall
3rd	Zena Wilson	Zena Wilson	Lewis Hall	John Taylor	Tyler McBeth Harry Kitson John Dugmore

## Monthly competition categories for July:

**Lapidary:** Any form of opal

**Fossil:** Nautilus or Ammonite

**Mineral:** Any natural geode

**Alphabet Cup:** K, A, M

**Agate Arena:** Sagenite agate

**Bring and Brag:** Bring something along to share with everyone!

## Competition categories for 2025/2026:

Category	Lapidary <u>own work</u>	Fossil	Mineral	Alphabet cup: State or country starting with ( )	Agate arena
<b>Jul-25</b>	Opal	Nautilus or ammonite	Any natural geode	K, A, M	Sagenite Agate
<b>Aug-25</b>	Any tumbled stone	Fossil coral	Something Blue or Green	E, N,	Any Magpie
<b>Sep-25</b>	Two halves of anything	Any tooth	Any form of quartz	I, S	Parallax
<b>Oct-25</b>	Obsidian or Rhyolite	Any fossil	Agate with mineral inclusions (sagenite, dendrites, etc)	G, R	Any Whitecliffs
<b>Nov-25</b>	Pounamu	Fossil wood	Garnet	E, A, T	Floater
<b>Feb-26</b>	Any polished geode	Something from Otago	Olivine	O, L, B	Any Mt Somers
<b>Mar-26</b>	Any sphere	Something marine	Any lead mineral	Q, F	Tubes/plumes
<b>Apr-26</b>	Flint/Chert	Trilobite	Tourmaline	W, U	Any Otago
<b>May-26</b>	Carnelian	Something from Canterbury	Any form of calcite	Y, P, V	Any uncut nodule

### Matariki project:

Just a reminder that you need to have your '*creation*' completed by next meeting. (see the May newsletter for more info)

### Crystals & Crafts Market:

We are counting down the days to the 2nd Crystals and Crafts market. Don't forget to stop by. Bring a bag and some cash. You may need to park some way from the building, so bring some good walking shoes!

### Attention CMLC members:

If you would like contribute to the CMLC newsletter, you're more than welcome to send in a report and photos of your recent rock-hounding trip. If you are interested, please send an email with the provided content to [tyler\\_\\_@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:tyler__@hotmail.co.nz) for a feature in future editions.

## Online opal studies course:

The Gemmological Association of Australia (GAA) has launched a new online course all about opal — Australia's national gemstone. It's the first comprehensive course of its kind and covers all types of opal from around the world.

It's designed for jewellers, gemmologists, collectors, and enthusiasts—so perfect for anyone in your club keen to learn more about how opal forms, how it's classified, value factors, and much more. And because it's online and self-paced, anyone can jump in and study at their own pace.

You can also check out some images and more details here:

<https://www.gem.org.au/gaacos-media-release/>.



**For amazing opal photos like this, check out the provided website!**

## COMING EVENTS:

- **Crystals & Crafts Market Day 2025;** 5<sup>th</sup> July 10am – 3pm; 110 Waltham Road, Christchurch
- **Gemstone Jewellery & Crafts Fair: 2025;** 12<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> July; Scottish Hall, 10 Tyne St, Oamaru
- **CMLC Show 2025;** 20 – 21<sup>st</sup> September; 110 Waltham Road, Christchurch
- **National Gem, Rock & Mineral show 2025;** 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October; Plymouth International Hotel; 220 Courtney St; Central New Plymouth





# CRYSTALS & CRAFTS MARKET

*Crystals, Polished Stones  
&  
Handmade Crafts*

*Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025*

*10 a.m-3 p.m*

*110 Waltham Road, Waltham, Christchurch  
(Next to Waltham School)*

*Street Parking  
Bring Cash*



**CANTERBURY MINERAL AND LAPIDARY CLUB**

## **GEM SHOW**

**SAT 20<sup>TH</sup> SEPT 9 AM-4 PM**

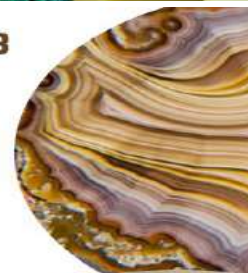
**SUN 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPT 10 AM-4 PM**

**PLEASE BRING CASH**

**110 WALTHAM RD  
CHRISTCHURCH**

- **SHOWCASES**
- **STALLS**
- **KIDS COMPETITION**
- **REFRESHMENTS**
- **RAFFLES**
- **CHUCKY TRAILER**

**ENTRY: \$4 PER ADULT  
CHILDREN \$2  
FAMILY \$10**





### Why not join our Club?

Come along to a meeting or a field trip and see how you enjoy it! If you wish to join please fill in the following details.

Name .....

Address .....

.....

Phone: ..... (Evenings)

Phone: ..... (Daytime, if appropriate)

Email address .....

Areas of interest .....

.....

**All membership is subject to committee approval**

### SUBSCRIPTION RATES (#3)

(Valid from April 1st (#2))

Family \$65 ☐

Individual \$50 ☐

Country (#1) \$40 ☐

Student \$35 ☐

#### Newsletter Delivery method

Email ☐

Hardcopy ☐

I/We understand that my name and contact details, phone and email, will be published on the Membership Contact list."

YES ☐ NO ☐

1. Country membership is calculated on living further than 32km from Cathedral Square Christchurch
2. Membership year is calculated from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March.
3. **Subscription rates are halved from 1<sup>st</sup> November through to 31<sup>st</sup> March**

### GEMSTONE & FOSSIL MUSEUM

67 HILLVIEW ROAD,  
BIRDLINGS FLAT

Owners: Vince & Colleen Burke

Phone: (03) 329 0812

Email: [gemstonemuseum@gmail.com](mailto:gemstonemuseum@gmail.com)

Open 9:30am till 5:00pm (seven days a week)

## HETTIE'S ROCK & CRYSTAL SHOP

**Birdwood Ave, Beckenham, Christchurch.**

**Also: Akaroa and Queenstown**

